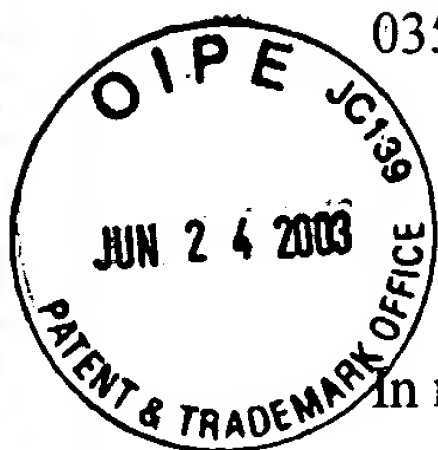


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03560.002932

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:

AKIRA KURIYAMA ET AL.

Appln. No.: 09/986,251

Filed: November 8, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
DECOMPOSING POLLUTANT :

Examiner: E. Wong

Group Art Unit: 1753

June 23, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

#11/W.M.
6/27/03
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TC 1700

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated June 10, 2003, imposing a restriction requirement in the above-identified application.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed invention for prosecution on the merits in this case. The Examiner alleged the existence of two patentably distinct inventions:

- Group I: Claims 1-27 and 55, drawn to an apparatus for decomposing a pollutant, classified in class 422, subclass 186; and
- Group II: Claims 28-54 and 56, drawn to a method for decomposing a pollutant, classified in class 588, subclass 227.

Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-27 and 55, with traverse.